

SOCKET NO.: MSFT-0281/163948.01

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Aaron W. Ogus et al.

Application No.: 09/800,382

Filing Date: March 6, 2001

For: System and Method for Scheduling a Future Event

Confirmation No.: 3313

Group Art Unit: 2127

Examiner: Kenneth Tang

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DATE OF DEPOSIT: April 14, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicant-Initiated Interview Summary

Date of Interview: March 18, 2004

Interview Type: ☐ Personal ☒ Telephonic ☐ Electronic Mail ☐ Video Conference ☐ Other:

Participants:

From PTO: (Include Name and Title)

1. Kenneth Tang., Examiner
- 2.
- 3.

For Applicant:

1. Susan C. Murphy, Attorney
2. , choose one: Applicant, Attorney, Agent
3. , choose one: Applicant, Attorney, Agent
4. , choose one: Applicant, Attorney, Agent

☒ An exhibit or demonstration was included and is described below:

See attached

The claims discussed included: Claim(s) 1, 7, 15, 16 and 20.

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The ☒art ☐prior art discussed included:

Applicant's invention.

An agreement ☒was ☐was not reached.

☐It was agreed that the attached claims are allowable.

☐It was agreed that the attached amendment would be entered.

☒The interview is summarized below.

We discussed the Examiner's amendment shown in the exhibit.

Date: April 8, 2005

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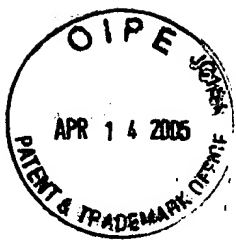


Exhibit - EXAMINER'S INTERVIEW 3/18/2005

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of scheduling a future event comprising:

receiving a first event data, the first event data including a first event and a time at which the first event is to occur;

creating a first data structure comprising a plurality of elements, each element associated with a time interval, the plurality of elements including at least a first element associated with a first time interval defined by a first start time and a first end time and a second element associated with a second time interval defined by a second start time and a second end time;

in response to determining that the time at which the first event is to occur falls within the first time interval, adding the first event to a list of events associated with the first element of the first data structure;

receiving a second event data including a second event and a time at which the second event is to occur;

in response to determining that the time at which the second event is to occur does not fall within any of the time intervals associated with the first data structure, creating a second data structure comprising at least a first element of the second data structure, the first element associated with a time interval encompassing the time at which the second event is to occur, the time interval of the first element of the second data structure comprising a summation of all time intervals of the plurality of elements of the first data structure; and

adding the second event to a list associated with the first element of said second data structure.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~scheduling a future event~~ of claim 1, wherein said first data structure comprises an array.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~scheduling a future event~~ of claim 1, wherein said second data structure comprises an array.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

in response to determining that the time at which the second event is to occur falls within the second time interval, associating said second event with said second element of said first data structure.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said act of associating said second event with said second element of said first data structure elements occurs after said second end time.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said second end time is greater than said first end time.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first element comprises a list pointer, and wherein said adding the first event to the list of events act comprises:

adding to a the list associated with said first element a list element indicative of said first event.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said list pointer comprises an empty list.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said list comprises a doubly linked list.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the act of:

initiating the list of events associated with said first element; and
repeating said initiating act for events associated with said second element at a pre-determined time interval.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said pre-determined time interval is a period of time from said first start time to said first end time.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first data structure comprises an array in which said first data structure elements are arranged in an order, and wherein said method further comprising the acts of:

setting a pointer to point to said first element of said first data structure elements, said first element comprising a beginning element in said array;
repeatedly advancing said pointer to a next element of said first data structure elements at a pre-determined time interval.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said advancing act comprises:

wrapping said pointer to the beginning element in said order.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions ~~to perform the method of claim 1.~~ for:

receiving a first event data, the first event data including a first event and a time at which the first event is to occur;

creating a first data structure comprising a plurality of elements, each element associated with a time interval, the plurality of elements including at least a first element associated with a first time interval defined by a first start time and a first end time and a second element associated with a second time interval defined by a second start time and a second end time;

in response to determining that the time at which the first event is to occur falls within the first time interval, adding the first event to a list of events associated with the first element of the first data structure;

receiving a second event data including a second event and a time at which the second event is to occur;

in response to determining that the time at which the second event is to occur does not fall within any of the time intervals associated with the first data structure,

creating a second data structure comprising at least a first element of the second data structure, the first element associated with a time interval encompassing the time at which the second event is to occur, the time interval of the first element of the second data structure comprising a summation of all time intervals of the plurality of elements of the first data structure; and

adding the second event to a list associated with the first element of said second data structure.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for scheduling future events comprising:

a first data structure comprising a plurality of elements, each of the plurality of elements of the first data structure associated with a period-of-time interval defined by a start time and an end time, the plurality of elements of the first data structure comprising at least a first element associated with a first time interval defined by a first start time and a first end time and a second element associated with a second time interval defined by a second start time and a second end time;

a scheduling module which, in response to determining that a time at which a first event is to occur falls within the first start time and the first end time interval of the first element of the first data structure, creates a second data structure associated with the first element of the first data structure and adds the first event to the second data structure; and which in response to determining that a time at which a second event is to occur falls within the second time interval of the second element of the first data structure, start time and the second end time, creates a third data structure associated with the second element of the first data structure and adds the second event to the third data structure; and

a fourth data structure which corresponds to a time duration subsequent to said first end time and said second end time, wherein said scheduling module receives a third event data including a third time at which the third event is to occur and associates said third event data with said fourth data structure, said third time not falling within any period of time associated with said first data structure.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein said first data structure comprises an array.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein each of said plurality of elements of said first data structure comprises a list pointer, and wherein said scheduling module adds said first event to a list pointed to by said first element.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein said list comprises a linked list.

20. (Cancelled)